

details of their destinations and frequency of flights;

(b) whether Indian Airlines and Air India too are operating international flights from and to this airport; if so, the details of such flights; and

(c) whether there is any proposal to increase Indian Airlines and Air India flights from Hyderabad particularly to Gulf countries?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV): (a) Emirates and Malaysian Airlines are presently operating from Hyderabad to Dubai and Kuala Lumpur respectively. While Emirates are operating eight services per week, Malaysian Airlines operate once weekly service out of Hyderabad.

(b) Air India presently operates to Singapore, Jeddah and Dubai through Hyderabad. Indian Airlines operates to Doha, Kuwait, Muscat, Sharjah and Dubai through Hyderabad.

(c) Indian Airlines have recently introduced thrice weekly services from Hyderabad to Dubai.

Fleet capacity of IA

1691. SHRI J. CHITHARANJAN:

SHRI V.V. RAGHAVAN:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the techno-economic evaluation study to replace the ageing fleet of B-737 and A-300 aircrafts and also to augment fleet capacity of Indian Airlines is completed;

(b) if so, the recommendations of the study group;

(c) whether these recommendations have been approved; and

(d) if so, the steps taken to implement them?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV): (a) to (c) Based on the evaluation of 15 aircraft types, a task force of Indian Airlines, headed by the then Deputy Managing Director, considered and short-listed nine aircraft types manufactured by Boeing Company and Airbus Industries in the seat range of 95-175 seats for replacement and augmentation of its fleet capacity. These aircraft are B717, B737-600, B737-700, B737-800 and B737-900 of Boeing Company and A318, A319, A320 and A321 of Airbus Industries. The

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RAJYA SABHA

final recommendations have been kept confidential in the commercial interest of the Indian Airlines and specially in view of the ongoing disinvestment process of Indian Airlines.

Consultative Committee's Recommendations on leasing out of airports

1692. SHRI SOLIPETA RAMACHANDRA REDDY: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Sub-Committee of the Consultative Committee attached to the Ministry of Civil Aviation has rejected Government's decision to lease-out four profit making airports to private parties and to retain the loss making airports with the authority;
- (b) if so, the names of the profit / loss making airports respectively;
- (c) the details of the recommendations of the Committee in this regard; and
- (d) the decision of Government on the recommendations of the Sub-Committee?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV): (a) to (d) The Sub-Committee of the Consultative Committee while supporting privatisation, liberalisation and globalisation which are irreversible process worldwide, had observed that it would not be prudent for the Government to lease out profit making airports. The Sub-Committee also suggested bundling of some of the non-remunerative airports with profit making airports for leasing. The Committee had also recommended construction of new airports through foreign direct investment. The main purpose of leasing Mumbai, Delhi, Chennai and Kolkata airports is to improve managerial efficiency, facilities / services at these airports to world class standards and to attract private investment for this purpose as these airports are the gateways to the country, and important for growth of trade and tourism. It would be better to upgrade the existing airports instead of construction of new airports at these locations as there is significant investment in these airports. The lease income from leasing of these airports would be utilized to develop other airports as per demand and requirement. It may not be possible to attract private investment in such airports which are basically loss making a bundling of loss making airports alongwith profit making airports would impact adversely on the leasing of the airports.

The names of profit making airports are Delhi, Chennai, Mumbai, Kolkata, Hyderabad, Goa, Bangalore, Calicut, Juhu, Bhuj and Pune airports.